Amusements, etc., Chis Evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.-" Ingomar." Salvini.

BOOTH'S THEATER.—At 1:30: "Rip Vau Winkle." Jeffer-son. At 8: "The New Magdalen." Daty's Broadway Theater.—At 2: "La Grande Duchesse." At 8: "La Perichole." Mile. Almee. GRAND OPERA HOUSE,-"Tae Wandering Jow." G. L.

New Lycgum THEATER.—At 2 and at 8: " Notre Dame." T. C. King. Niblo's Garden .- At 2 and at 8: "The Black Crook." OLYMPIC THEATER.-At 2 and at 8: "Sinbad the Sailor." Miss Lydia Thompson.

UNION SQUARE THEATER.—At 1:30 and at 8: "Micawber" and "The Belies of the Kitchen." The Vokes Family.

WALLACK'S THEATER.—At 2: "The Colleen Bawn." Shiel Barry. At 8: "Dust and Diamonds."

AMERICAN INSTITUTE .- Day and Night, Annual Fair, Bain Halt.-Exhibition of Paintings.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN. - Summer Night's Concert. Theodore Thomas. ROBESSON HALL.-At 5 and at 8: Varieties. The Royal TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE .- At 2:30 and at 8: Va-

Index to Advertisements.

AMDREMENTS—Eleventh Page—5th and 6th columns.
Banking and Pinancial—Ninth Page—6th column.
BOARD AND ROOMS—Eleventh Page—3d and 4th columns.
BUSINESS NOTICES—Sixth Page—1st column.
CHANCES FOR BUSINESS MEN—Tenta Page—2d and 3d
columns.

COLUMNS.
COEPORATION NOTICES—Fifth Page—6th column,
DANCING ACADEMICS—Ninta Page—3d column.
DENTISTRY—Exceedit Page—1st column.
DIVITIOND NOTICES—Front Page—3d column.
DET GOODS—Fleenit Page—3d column.
EUROFEAN ADVERTISEMENTS—Tenth Page—4th, 5th, and
oth columns.

6th columns.

Financial—Tenth Page—2d column.

Funniver.—Eleventh Page—2d column.

Illef Wanted—Eleventh Page—6th column.

Horses, Caerlages, Harness, &c.—Eleventh Page—

HOTELS - Fifth Page - 6th column; EUROPEAN - Tenth Page - 5th and 6th columns.

HOTELS-Pith Page-5th column; EUROPEAN-Tenth Page-5th and 6th columns.

INSTRUCTION-Minth Page-1st, 2d and 3d columns; Bughth Page-5th column.

LAW SCHOOLS-Ninth Page-3d column.

LEGAL NOTICES-Eleventh Page-1st column.

LOAN OFFICES-Eleventh Page-1st column.

NARRILES AND DEATHS-Seventh Page-6th column.

MARRILES AND DEATHS-Seventh Page-6th column.

MARRILES AND DEATHS-Seventh Page-6th column.

MISSIELLANDOUS-Tenth Page-3d column: Twelfth Page-4th, 3th, and 6th columns.

MISSIELLANDOUS-Eleventh Page-3d, 4th, 5th and 6th columns.

columns

Brat. ESTATE FOR SALE, CITY-Fifth Page-5th column; IMCONLIN-Fifth Page-5th column; NEW-JESERY - Fifth Page - 5th column; COUNTRY-Fifth Page - 5th column; AT AUCTION - Fifth Page-5th column; AT AUCTION - Fifth Page-5th column; TO EXCHANGE-Fifth Page-5th column.

BLAIGHOUS NOTICE.—Eleventh Page-1st column.

RELIGIOUS NOTICE.—Eleventh Page—1st column.
SALISS BY AUCTION—Eleventh Page—3d column.
SAVINGS BANKS—Tenth Page—3d column.
SITUATIONS WANTED, MALES—Eleventh Page—4th column;
FEMALISS—Eleventh Page—4th and 5th columns.
SPECIAL NOTICES—Seventh Page—6th column.
SPEAMEDATS AND RAILENADS—Tenth Page—3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th columns.
STEAMERS, OCEAN—Fifth Page—4th column.
STATIONERY—Eleventh Page—3d column.
SUMMER RETERATS—Eleventh Page—3d column.
TEACHERS—North Page—3d column.
TO LET, CITY PROPERTY—Fifth Page—6th column;
MEDORLYN FROPERTY—Fifth Page—6th column;
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCRES—Fifth Page—4th column.

Sneiness Notices.

WHETHER YOU TRAVEL, OR STAY AT HOME JOUVEN'S INODOROUS KID GLOVE CLEANER BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE is the best in the A FACT.—It will pay you well to go to

DAY. and Sixth-ave., N. T. Functions and Sub-are, N. T.
Fireproof Building Processes,—Reliable,
tenue, and Romanical, Foriestruction, right to use, and other insmallen, appir to Uol. A. Dernow, Paterson, N. J.

TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DAILY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum. SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$3 per an. WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, \$2 per annum. A dvertising Rates.

DAILY TRIBUNE, 20c, 30c, 40c, 50c, 75c, and \$1 per line. SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, 25 and 35 per line. WEEKLY TRIBUNE, \$2, \$3, and \$5 per line.

According to position in the paper.

Terms, cash in advance.
Address. The Tribune. New-York.

Advertisements received at up-town offices, 54; W. Bal-st., or 308 W. 23d-st., and at the Brooklyn Branch Office, 323 Washington-st., next door to the Post-shee, till 8 p. m., at regular rates.

THE TRIBUNE IN EUROPE.-An office for TRIBUNE Ad-THE TRIBUSE IN EUROPR.—An office for IRRUNE Ac-vertisements and Subscriptions is now open in London, No. 38 Ficet-st., E. C. All English and Continental ad-vertisements into ded for insection in The New-York Tribuse should be sent direct to the London Office. Subscriptions for any period will be received at the same office, and single copies of the paper may always

THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE, 84 Fleet-at., E. C., London.

During the construction of the front of the new Pribune wilding. The Tribune Office may be found in the first wilding in the rear on Spruce-st. The Tribune Counting oom is on the first floor, and is entered at the second door

New-Pork Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1873.

TRIPLE SHEET.

The Buddington party of Polaris survivors arrived safely at Dundee in the whaler Arctic. - Père Hyacinthe withdrew from the Old Catholic Congress because Dr. Wolck of Augsburg made a bitter speech against the French. - Civil War has broken out in Morocco. - Sir Hugh Allan testified, in the Canadian Railway investigation, regarding his letters and tele grams, and asserted that all the money advanced by Americaus was refunded.

Secretary Pichardson offers to pay promptly Government bills in order to put currency in circulation. There was a run on the Freedmen's and Washington Savings Banks in Washington. Distrust is felt there in the ability of the First National Bank ever to resume. Quiet is restored in Philadelphia. - The arguments on the constitutional jurisdiction of the Circuit Court of Connecticut in the Crédit Mobilier suit were closed, and a motion was made in the name of the Union Pacific Railroad to dissolve the injunction. - The United States Senate Committee on Transportation and Routes to the Seaboard visited Buffalo and Tonawanda, and made personal inspection of the Eric Canal. The Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows in Baltimore rejected a resolution repealing the rule prohibiting general business at a lodge on Sunday.

Fisk & Hatch and 18 Jother banking firms failed; there was a serious run on the Union Trust Company; two tunks in Holoken were said to be embarrassed; prominent bank officers held a consultation in regard to the crists. —— The alleged negotiators of the stolen Wilhimantic bonds refused to make statements; Chauncey attempted to prove that the Trust Company pover gave httenphot of the bouds; Sprague's indictment is proba-ble. — A tax levy of \$28,228,490 57 was confirmed. — It was decided to add 100 patrolmen to the police force. - The 11th Regiment was released, but is to be court-martialed. —— Five saw-dust swindlers were arrested. —— The Reform Association's protective movement was initiated. —— Republican primaries were held in New-York and Brooklyn. ==== Constable Trainer testified at the Kelsey inquest. — Gold, 112;, 113; Thermometer, 70°, 69;°, 55°.

Our third page this morning has an unusually interesting group of foreign correspondence. The British pilgrimage to Paray-le-Monial is graphically described both in its incidents and its tendencies. The prospects of the Bourbon fusion and the fencing of the French press on the subject form the matter of our Paris letter. From London we have a careful analysis of Mr. Lowe's recent speech at Sheffield and his defense of the Ministry and of his own financial policy.

There are many readers of THE TRIBUNE who regard the progress of scientific investigation as a matter of far higher importance than any more financial revolution. Such judicious persons will be glad to turn from the story of the great flurry in Wall-st. to the fourth page of our issue to-day, where they paper without injury to our financial reputawill find the latest results of deep-sea dredg- tion among European capitalists who do not ing elaborately set forth; or if they prefer the share our American contempt for gold and teachings of the mountains to those of the silver? Unhappily Congress has made almost meet the approval of the people outside the possibly detract from the dignity of a lay-

sea, they will find the discoveries of the Hayden expedition narrated by our special correspondent in Colorado.

Our correspondent among the Western farmers lays aside for the moment the discussion of the transportation question, and sketches some characteristics of life among the prairie corn-fields which will amply repay examination. He shows how important and valuable a part the Grange is likely to play in the social conditions of the West, and how great was the need of some such relief to the hard and unattractive life of the agricultural communities. Farmer Smith said a good many things on this subject for which he has been soundly berated ever since; but Mr. Smith is evidently lacking in those qualities of carefulness and self-possession for which we especially value our correspondent; and accordingly he said too much.

THE PANIC.

The worst of the panic seems over. Aside from the great misfortune of the failure of fallen; speculation is checked, and our Fisk & Hatch, following hard upon that of Jay Cooke & Co., it has been not at all a commercial, but purely a fancy stock crash. Not a mercantile house is affected. Not a Savings Bank is troubled. General business in New-York has rarely been better, and there is little or no alarm outside of speculative circles. But holders of third rate railroad stocks have suffered and to their senses and feel bottom. The meeting are destined to suffer. For many a concern not yet reached, there is, through the approaching Winter, a bad outlook. Fancy prices have been broken, the public disposition to invest in faucy stocks is gone, even meritorious railroad enterprises will be viewed with distrust, and shaky houses may expect to spend the rest of the season in diligent underpinning. For Messrs. Fisk & Hatch, as for Jay Cooke & Co., there is only the sincerest sympathy. They have rendered great and honest service in the material development of the country, their name is a synonym for integrity, and their failure is a public misfortune-soon, all will hope, to be retrieved. Meantime let us trust that, with such men in

Wall Street as have not lost their heads, the bitter teaching of the past week may be heeded. One lesson that may be learned from this panic, and should have been learned without it, is that for years back the New-York banks have been keeping on hand a very inadequate amount of eash in comparison with the nature and amount of their liabilities to depositors. A comparison of the respective weekly reports will show that the legal tender reserve of the banks of this city, excluding gold, which is no longer part of the circulation, is subject to quite as numerous and violent fluctuations as the reserve of notes in the banking department of the Bank of England. And experience teaches that our banks have even less control over the reserve than the Bank of England has. Unlike it, when the tide is running out we have no power to stop it. We may, therefore, conclude that the banks of the City of New-York require for their safe and easy working as large a stock of money in proportion to the demands which may be made on them by depositors as the Bank of England does. Examining its returns for two years back, we find that though the bank has twice taken vigorous measures to support itself, the reserve of notes has never fallen so low as thirty per cent of the deposits, while it has often exceeded fifty per cent. Long and bitter experience has taught the necessity of holding this proportion. Turning to the statements of the New-York banks, we find that since 1869 they have never held legal tender notes to the amount of thirty per cent of their deposits, while they have usually been below twentyfive per cent and often under twenty per cent. Our maximum has been below the Bank of England's minimum, and of the two steeds ours is the more difficult to control. Now, without further enlarging on this suggestive topic, is it any wonder that our banks have not worked with ease or safety? That we so often see money lending in Wall Street for one-quarter, one-half, and even one per cent for use over night? That a degrading, demoralizing, and in every way pernicious dependence upon the National Treasury has

grown up among us ? And this compels us to make a few observations on the misconduct of the last two Secretaries of the Treasury. Secretary Boutwell's interference with Wall Street a year ago, which even at the time was conspicuously more advantageous to certain "friends of "Government" among the speculators in gold and stocks than to men engaged in legitimate business, is one of the prime causes of the present panic. Another prime cause is the power claimed by the Treasury Department to reissue the forty-four millions of greenbacks which have been called in and canceled-a claim morally as base, practically as menacing to the national credit, and legally as-ill-founded as Gen. Butler's scheme to pay the interest on the bonds in greenbacks. Indeed, we consider the latter the more respectable proposition of the two. The consequences of these fatal blunders of Messrs. Boutwell and Richardson are easily traced. So far from profiting by their troubles of last the banks have suffered themselves to be caught with even less reserves than they held in 1872. Only once during this calendar year have they held fifty million dollars in greenbacks against debts to depositors, payable on demand in greenbacks, of more than two hundred millions. All Summer long their legal-tender averages have been allowed to run from five to ten millions below the corresponding figures of last year, while in the dull season from the 1st of May to the middle of August they heedlessly expanded their loans twenty million dollars. Their reliance was on the Secretary of the Treasury, who, not to do him injustice, gave out intimations nearly two months ago that his policy would be "to de-"fend the interests of legitimate commerce, despite the ingenuity of those who choose to gamble with the national credit." We will only say that the Secretary appears to have handled his weapons most unskillfully, for more Israelites than Philistines are among

There is another point, connected with the course which Secretary Richardson may take in this emergency, which is deserving of consideration. It is a vital matter that the credit of the United States Government be not subjected to any unnecessary strain, for our whole monetary system rests upon that alone. There is no necessity that the credit of the Government should suffer. Yet, in all seriousness, we ask, if an addition can be made to the present volume of the Government's irredeemable

a revival of the import branch of our compresent month will show, in all probability, some little decrease of the Public Debt, there is no hope whatever that the reduction will meet till December, vigorously cuts down exshall have to shoulder the moral effects of this crash, and of the discontinuance of our splendid monthly records of debt reduction. Shall we add to these the odium of a needless expansion of the paper circulation ? Nothing is more certain than that in a very few weeks there will be plenty of money in Wall Street. Prices have present volume of currency will be amply sufficient for all requirements the moment confidence (we do not mean credulity) is restored. There seems reason for believing that the worst of the storm is over. Some heavy purchases of stocks have already been made in Wall Street by outsiders, and more will be made as soon as men with ready money come of bank officers to-day promises good results, and we are more than ever of opinion that no brandy need be administered by Mr. Richard-

THE POLARIS SURVIVORS. The story of the rescue of the Buddington party of survivors of the Polaris, telegraphed to The Tribune by cable from Dundee, Scotland, where they arrived on Thursday, though lacking the wonder-stirring features of the long ice-floe voyage of the Tyson party, is yet full of strange and thrilling interest. Of all the Arctic voyages so far, full as they have been of the romance and the hardships of adventure, none can compare with the story of the Polaris, with the separation of her crew, and the rescue of the whole party without the loss of a life. The story of Capt. Buddington and his men does not differ from that told by the members of the Tyson it is of course not so full. A good deal of impatience has been manifested at the continued experiments in Arctic navigation, and since the first news of the Polaris was received the disposition has been quite general to denounce Arctic expeditions as a waste of human life. The conclusion seems somewhat hasty. For, judging from the results of the Polaris expedition, which endured all manner of bardships and encountered unnumbered perils of starvation and shipwreck with the loss of but one man, the very safest business in the world is Arctic exploration. The proportion of lives lost is less than if they had remained at home on land or engaged in any other business.

If the expedition has not accomplished all that it set out to, it has by no means been fruitiess. Larger and more important results would have been secured had there been more unity of purpose and action among as judges. And neither Congress nor the those who had it in charge. But men who are willing to take the risks of such a voyage, and who have the enthusiasm of adventure that warrants the expectation of success, are not so plenty as to offer much choice in the selection. There is no reason to complain that the expedition has accomplished nothing. It has not by any means been a failure. With the additional information that has been gained by this experiment, the next Arctic expedition may start out with much better expectation of reaching the open Polar Sea that he privately assisted Boswell in his accuthan any of its predecessors. The advance is mulation of materials. The consequence is, slow, but it is an advance. Capt. Hall reached | that we have probably the best "Life" which a higher latitude than any previous explorer. His experience will be of incalculable advan- curious to notice that upon Johnson's death

tage to his successor, whoever he may be. ment at Washington for the Buddington party | the death of Mr. Dickens; and those familiar to be sent home on the first steamer, and it is possible they may leave Liverpool to-day.

· THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. The new Governor of the District of Columbia, Mr. Alexander R. Shepherd, whose promotion from the position of Vice-President of the Board of Public Works has elicited much unfavorable comment, has made an address to the Legislative Assembly of the District somewhat in the nature of an Inaugural. The important features in this address were reference to the financial condition the District, and the means of escape from pecuniary embarrassment which indicates. "It was natural," he says, "that in the sleepy condition in which "they had found affairs when the present "Government was inaugurated, they should 'incur a large debt in securing such improve-'ments as would guarantee the stability of "the city as the seat of the General Govern-'ment." The class of people who never see a man or a corporation "in a sleepy condition" without having an unconquerable desire to "go through" them, as they phrase it, will find in the "sleepy condition" of the District of Columbia at the beginning of the Shepherd regime the explanation if not the excuse for its present insolvency. But this is not a matter of so much interest to the people of the country as the suggestion which immediately followed. It is well enough to know how the District came to be plucked; but it is of more consequence to know how the debt which these gentlemen have incurred is to be paid. In this branch of the new Governor's discourse he so broadens out as to make his subject one of national instead of-merely local interest. For he proposes to have the General Government assume the District debt. That comes home to all of us. Continuing his address, he said he "believed that in a much shorter time than most are aware of the "District would be freed from this debt by the aid of the Government," and expressed the hope that a course would be taken by the District Government "which "would secure the cooperation of the legisla-"tive department of the General Government "as well as of the Executive." The cooperation of the Executive it seems has already been secured. As much has before been intimated. and the appointment of Gov. Shepherd gives it the color of fact.

The rumor that has gained some currency that President Grant will recommend in his next message the assumption of the District debt by the Federal Government, may or may not be true. The President has not heretofore been guilty of the weakness of publishing his intentions, or disclosing even to intimate friends the drift and purpose of his official atterances before they have been formally promulgated. But whether he makes this recommendation or not, and whatever may be his reasons, it is certain the proposition itself will not

unlimited appropriations from the revenues of District. How much this proposal may have figure, the rule de mortuis being adhered to the current fiscal year. The duties on imports to do with another which promises to develop have been reduced, and at the same time the into the greatest lobbying scheme that even and gossip are so freely indulged in that the importations have largely fallen off. Thus the | this lobby-cursed country has ever knownincome of the Treasury is seriously impaired. to wit, the scheme to saddle upon the General We need hardly add that there is nothing in Government the debts of the Southern States little one. It must be admitted that it is not the present situation of affairs which promises | -does not yet appear. But it is obvious enough that the assumption of the District merce. The truth must be faced. Though the | debt will be a precedent for the other scheme which its advocates will be sure to make the most of. The arguments against the assumption of the Southern State debts are too familiar be continued, unless Congress, which does not | to need to be recited. It is enough to say that the people of the North will never consent to penses, beginning with its own pay. We pay a gang of speculators one hundred cents upon the dollar for obligations which are the certificates of fraud and the proceeds of robbery, and have been bought for a song with guilty knowledge. They may be cheated into it, as they have been cheated before, by false representatives who will lead the way to it by such a precedent as this proposition of Gov. Shepherd would furnish, but in no other way can it be carried through. There is another point in this matter how-

ever which deserves prior consideration. Before the debate upon the assumption of this debt opens, we suggest that an investigation into the manner in which it was incurred, its extent, and all the circumstances of it be ordered. Indeed, Mr. Alexander R. Shepherd's appointment as Governor should not be confirmed by the Senate until all the charges that have been so freely bruited as to his connection with a corrupt Ring in District affairs are thoroughly sifted and their truth or falsity shown. This is due Mr. Shepherd as well as the people of the District. At present he is under a cloud, and we may be permitted to say that the singularly unanimous votes of confidence in him by the Republican Ward Clubs of Washington, on Tuesday evening, are not sufficient to cleanse his reputation or exonerate him from the suspicion which has attached to him. The single fact that after the enormous appropriations of last Winter the District is still unable to pay its teachers, firemen, and policemen, is such a suspicious circumstance as of itself to demand investigation, and the reports apparently well authenticated that the District debt exceeds by millions the limit fixed by law, are additional reasons for searching inquiry into party in the official investigation, though Mr. Shepherd's administration. We are only stating a well-known fact when we say that the current opinion among members of Congress of all parties is that the corruptions of the Washington Ring exceed those of Tammany. Never was investigation more imperatively demanded. It should be had in any event upon the question of Mr. Shepherd's confirmation, without waiting for the proposttion concerning the debt, or for the plan which is believed to be in contemplation to abandon the Territorial Government and govern the District by a commission.

Speaker Blaine, if reëlected, will have devolved upon him the duty of appointing a committee of investigation. The old Committee on the District of Columbia will not do, nor any member of it. They may be summoned as witnesses, perhaps, but Mr. Blaine cannot afford to appoint them, or any of them, country can afford to let the matter go by without investigation.

BIOGRAPHY.

Everybody will remember Dr. Johnson's

joke (for it was nothing more serious) when

he was told that his Life was to be written by

Mr. Boswell-"Sir, if I thought so, I would

"prevent it by taking his." There is reason to believe that the Doctor was well enough satisfied with his biographical prospects, and was ever written of any human being. It is there was precisely the same mania for writing bi-Orders have gone from the Navy Depart- ographies of him which, in our own day, followed with the literature of that period will readily recall the scramble to be first in the market which so much annoyed Boswell, and the hastily written reminiscences of the great man which were put out by Hawkins, Piozzi, and Miss Reynolds, to mention no others. The post-mortem fate of several literary men seems to have so much alarmed the late Mr. John Stuart Mill, that he took measures to avert the misfortunes which even in their graves overtook Dickens and Thackeray. Because, to use the language of Mr. Mill's testament, 'in these days no one is secure against attempts to make money by means of pretended biographies," he left behind him a short account of his life written by himself, in absolute charge of his step-daughter, Miss Helen Taylor, to be published or not at her will and discretion. In the event of the lady's death during his life-time, the business of publication is confided to Mr. William Thomas Thornton. The philosopher then enters a general caveat against all other "pretended biographies," assuring us that all materials for his "Life" are in the hands of Miss Taylor, and of her only, and that nobody else can possibly be qualified to write his biography. We can easily imagine that the nice and irascible Rogers, could he have foreseen the trashy "Reminiscences" which were printed after his death, would have taken a similar precaution. Sir Walter Scott might have felt that his memory would be safe in the skillful

> reverence. Charles Lamb would hardly have been afraid of any important indiscretion on the part of his friend Talford. When Cole ridge passed away, there was more than one catchpenny book printed about him; but he was too indolent to have lifted his hand to avert the disaster. Lord Byron, who carefully wrote his own "Life," was spared the morti-fication of knowing that when he could not help himself his work, the loss of which is one of the greatest which ever befell English literature, would be burned by the connivance of his own family and his friend Murray. If every great man should be as fastidious

> hands of his son-in-law, Lockhart; and

Southey, a bookmaker by profession, would

have looked forward with pleasure to his

bulky biography prepared by filial hands, and

certainly with something more even than filial

as Mr. Mill, unquestionably the world would be greatly the loser. His feelings are of course to be religiously respected; but if we are to know no more of distinguished characters than they please to have known, and if biography is to become a sort of conspiracy between its subjects and their chroniclers, it is doubtful whether we shall hereafter get anything much better than the dull and prudish and not over trustworthy productions of Mr. Jared Sparks. Hero-worshipers of the life-writing sort are of two kinds. One class is decorous, careful, and reticent; the other colloquial, familiar, and garrulous. Sometimes everything is concealed which can

with irritating bigotry; and sometimes scandal great man, stripped almost to nakedness, is degraded by undue admiration into a very easy to hit the happy medium between the reverence which worships and the admiration which dotes. Consequently biography is a department of literature in which there are constantly new experiments. It is only now, after the lapse of so many generations, after a score have been written, that we are promised a really good Life of Pope, while of Swift, one of the most notable of biographical phenomena, there is to-day no good life at all. Whoever would know anything accurately of Goldsmith must collate Prior, Forster, and Irving. There are fifty "Lives" of Napoleon in the English language, and while some of them are as bad as possible, there is not one of them which has much value. In America, almost every distinguished character has been captured by writers of the mausoleum school, and so solemnly "inurned" that of Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Hamilton, and Jay, to mention no others, we hardly know anything except that they lived and moved majestically. Dr. Franklin was prudent enough to write himself one of the most charming pieces of autobiography in the language, but even this has been tampered with and exenterated at the awful fiat of literary respectability. The mischief of this kind of writing, especially in the case of Washington, is likely to be irreparable. A demi-god he has been made, and as a demidivine he will probably go down to the remotest future. The fate of Jefferson has been a mitigated one, not because his "Life" (until very lately) was tolerably written, but for the reason that he never posed, had no notions of mock dignity, and was always willing enough to be seen of men in his shirt-sleeves. There may still be excellent gleaning in the field of American Biography. The series edited by Mr. Sparks is of such wooden and woful dullness that a new body of American Lives is really called for, and will amply repay any labor which may be wisely expended in its

preparation. It is to be regretted that it has not been and is not likely to be the fashion for the distinguished men who have been active in affairs or notable in letters, to write their own histories. It is astonishing how trustworthy records of this kind have usually proved themselves to be, and even when under the influence of vanity or bad faith they have not been so, they have usually furnished the means of their own correction. No ill usually comes of allowing a man to draw his own portrait, for he will be pretty sure to regard his deformities as so many beauties, while a sharp-eyed world would at once see through all the color with which he may beautify his visage.

MORE CONSCIENCE.

The Little Black Friday of 1873 has set in so strong a light the unsoundness of a certain fashionable method of building railways, that it will be no more than reasonable to ask financial men to pause awhile before they return to their former customs of business, and inquire whether they have done just right by their customers and just right by themselves. Railway enterprises brought down the most conspicuous of the houses whose failure has just disturbed the whole country. But Jay Cooke was a firm believer in the Northern Pacific : Fisk & Hatch were equally sanguine about the Chesapeake and Ohio; both firms stood loyally by their roads, and put their own money into them, besides inviting the investments of the public. There is nothing discreditable, nothing doubtful in their connection with the companies which have brought them such disaster, and if they have fallen it is gratifying to know that they have fallen with honor. How many of the banking firms which that politicians, who are also statesmen, might be have identified themselves with more or less speculative railway schemes could show equally | so far as to advance the Quaker idea of a "hireling clean hands ?

The system of popular loans, which received such an extraordinary development from Mr. Jay Cooke's success with the Government war loans, has facilitated a kind of financiering that is hardly honest. Prominent bankers become the advertising agents of dubious enterprises, and lend their reputation at a percentage, to induce the unwary to make dangerous investments. They risk no money of their own; but they pledge their word that the securities are good, and when they have sold them they stand from under. The crash comes; the rubbish is cleared away, and then we find the respectable bankers looking on, unhurt, while poor men,-their customers, who have taken their word about their wares, - are writhing under the ruins.

It is a strange fact that in pushing railway bonds, of any character or no character, banking-houses can always count upon the aid of a large portion of the religious press. A majority probably of the denominational papers are ready at any time not merely to open their advertising columns for this purpose, but to sell editorial commendations, and turn the sanctum into a broker's office. Nay, several of the leading religious papers have gone so far as to peddle railroad bonds among their subscribers, for a commission-and we hope they and their victimized subscribers are both satisfied with the developments of the current week.

We cannot too strongly urge it upon respectable firms that it is their duty to make sure of the value of the securities which they force so persistently upon the public. While they sell in the present reckless way, confidence will be easily shaken, and panies will be inevitable.

THE INTERNATIONAL EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE. The International Evangelical Alliance, as

we learn from their announcement issued this week, have resolved to hold their annual meeting in Philadelphia during the coming month. Deputations from Europe, the British Provinces, etc., are expected to be present. The meeting of the Alliance, we are informed, will be largely occupied with the presentation of papers on leading topics of modern Christian thought. When these are of too great length, abstracts only will be read, each speaker being limited to thirty minutes. If clergymen are like ordinary men, this will be a limitation grievous to be borne; for who among us, given the chance of making known his peculiar crank or hobby or idea to the people from all parts of the world supposed to be interested in it, would like to be nipped short in half an hour? The Conference differs greatly from the first Evangelical Alliance-the few fishermen, publicans and Magdalenes, who were wont in fear and secreey to assemble with fasting and prayer in an upper chamber. These are no doubt genial and well-fed centlemen in black coats, who are

seat and a daily lunch." Other times, very properly, bring other manners. But we shall be disappointed if the 'leading topics of Christian thought" do not prove to be the same with those which agitated the minds and hearts of that first trembling band of disciples more than they have been for many centuries in the interval. But two ideas filled the thoughts of that first conference, the Christ who had just been taken from them, and how they could make Him known to the world. After a little while the chief object of the members of the Christian Church, whether we call it Roman, Greek, Presbyterian, or Episcopalian, would seem to have been individual salvation. Each man appeared to face God alone, with the terrrible question, "How am I to be saved !" Prayers by rote, fasting and flagellations, works of supercrogation, the whole conventual system of isolation, the Puritan-self-negation, doctrine of election, the fiery appeals of the Methodist, the entire drift and current of religious teaching have been to show to each man a burning hell below him and bewildering heaven above, and to bid him save himself. So far has this been carried that benevolence and good works are too often urged upon us as an evidence of our own piety to God rather than for the sake of our brother. Some of the more arrogant and narrower sects proceed upon the identical prayer of Constant's drowning man, "Great God! I don't trouble thee about all these other shipwrecked fellows. Save me!" Christ, it will be remembered, said nothing to his disciples about their own souls. He showed them God and their neighbor. The fields were white unto the harvest. They were not to sit at home picking motes or beams out of their own eyes, but to go out and reap, cure the

willing to pay "ten dollars for a reserved

poor. Now, while individual Christians have obeyed this injunction, it is a lamentable fact that the Church as a corporate body has not been the Leader in the world which she should have been of charitable, liberal feeling, or humanitarian efforts. For ages she blocked up all advance in invention, science, or learning, which would have lifted men to higher levels. She was a tyrant, whether wearing tiars or miter, the Cavaliers' flowing curls or the Covenanters' cropped hair. She was drunk with the blood of those who differed with her in opinion. Even here, and in this nineteenth century, she was slow to preach temperance and hugged slavery long to her bosom. But better days are dawning. From inward light or outside pressure the ordinary sect is forced to lay aside much of its old time bigotry and bitterness in dogmatism, and betake itself to its long neglected work, the loving, humble, hearty help of its needy brother. While we see such hopeful signs as the late union in the Presbyterian Church, or as in Philadelphia last week, the Quaker and Jew praising God together while they build a hospital, we are encouraged to hope that the Evangelical Alliance will find the "leading topics of Christian "thought" at last to be God and Humanity.

sick, visit the prisons, bring the Gospel to the

The Rev. Mr. Alger of Boston, well known to readers as the author of a learned and amusing book on The Doctrine of a Future Life, has adopted the Quaker idea of the ministry. He has been pastor of the Music Hall Society, but last Sunday he informed the congregation that in his opinion the present form of Sunday worship had outlived its usefulness, and that in future the preacher should become a teacher. He assumed that the Sabbath is no more sacred than any other day, and he could see no impropriety in using it for the instruction and elevation of the people. He regarded the custom of building costly churches and restricting their use to Sunday services as a deplorable waste of money which, he thought, should be used for schools and other secular purposes. He also took ground against a settled ministry. He did not think it possible for one man to supply brains for a weekly discourse. He was for employing first-class ability, whether of clergymen or laymen, men or women, and thought useful as religious instructors. Mr. Alger did not go ministry." His lecturers, we suppose, are to be paid

A tale of marble-hearted parents and ingeniou youth. For long a gallant young Philadelphian wooed the beauteous daughter of a cruel father and mother who did not, like the young lady, appreciate his many gifts. So Romeo and Juliet resolved to fly and be married far away from their tyrannical objections. Romeo went off to Chicago by rail while Miss Juliet wended her solitary way to Buffalo by rail and thence to Chicago by the lake. Romeo waiting on the Chicago dock for the arrival of the propeller found that other persons there were awaiting the same with equal anxiety, and furthermore that they were detectives sent to carry Mademoiselle back to the old Philadelphian shore. The heart and the brains of Romeo were stirred. Never would be permit his Juliet to be thus torn from him. Accordingly he quietly sought the captain of a convenient little tug-boat which in a moment was in motion on its way to Grasse Point, where it met the propeller, took on board the young lady, and reached the city an bour before the said propeller did. Then from that bright bark Romeo and Juliet departed and were calmly married while the detectives were wildly scarehing an unresponsive

People in England are obliged to be pretty careful what they write upon postal cards. The vicar of a parish in Suffolk has been fined \$50 and costs for sending one of his flock a P. C. upon which he was written down a wicked lover of fitthy lucre, because he had neglected to pay his Easter dues for two years. People will do well in this country to remember that a written slander is a libel, and that to post it is at law a quite sufficient publication, notwithstanding the pleasing fiction that nobody is supposed to read a postal card save the person to whom it is sent.

In the recent revival of public interest in regard to matters of Art, there has been a general regret expressed that this important subject has hitherto received so little attention in private schools, Principals will therefore be glad to learn that Mr. Clarence Cook is prepared to lecture on the Biography and History of Art during the coming school eason. The readers of THE TRIBUNE need no introduction to this clear-headed, discriminating, and eloquent scholar, and they will account any school fortunate which secures a course of lectures from

The Galaxy Course of lectures and readings which is to be given at the Church of the Disciples every Tuesday evening from the 7th of October to the 30th of December will assemble a remarkable list of attractive names and offer entertainment to a great variety of tastes. Miss Anna E. Dickinson will open the series, and among those who are to follow are Henry Ward Beecher, Oakey Hall, Grace Greenwood, Gen. Banks, John Brougham, Dr. Hepworth, and Wendell Phillips. He will be hard to please who cannot find satisfaction in such diversified company.

There is nothing like having a good command of language. A Western editor recently had a paragraph (of seven lines) to write about oysters, and within the brief extent of this he called them 1. Oysters (plain); 2. Succulent Bivalves; 3. Dainty Luxuries; 4. VISCID MORSEIS! This last phrase caps the climax. "Viscid Morsels" is good. Of course it only applies to the small fruit which they have out West-morsels is no name for the baby-like beauties of Fulton Markot